

to...okay, we are back to the bill, as amended and do you have anything further, Senator Johnson, or Senator Hannibal?

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Mr. President and members, LB 561, as Senator Johnson did explain, is...it's a very large loophole in the tax laws for collection of sales tax and it exempts oxygen concentrators, which is a machine that is used in the home for the purpose of making oxygen for people who have respiratory problems. Some of them buy bottled oxygen for inhaling purposes for the respiratory problems and we had that...that used to be taxed until about two years ago we were able to...this body passed a law that said that should not be taxed because it is like a prescription drug, but we missed oxygen concentrators because some people use this equipment to make their own oxygen as opposed to buying bottled oxygen. It wasn't considered part of the bill because of an Attorney General's Opinion and so this specifically excludes oxygen concentrators from sales tax if it is used for respiratory ailment conditions and it's a piece of equipment that allows a person to move around and I don't know that there is any opposition to the bill so I would just move for its advancement.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. May I ask for the conversational level to be lowered just a little bit so we can hear the speakers a bit better. The Chair recognizes Senator Carsten. Okay? Any further discussion on LB 561? If not, the motion is to advance the bill from General File. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted on the advancement of the bill? Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance 561, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The bill is advanced. Next we take up LB 635.

CLERK: 635, Mr. President, was a bill introduced by Senator Landis. (Title read.) The bill was read on January 22, referred to Banking, advanced to General File. There are committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Senator Landis, are you going to handle the committee amendments?

SENATOR LANDIS: Actually these are Banking Committee